10   making updates to the specified applications when new

11   versions of the specified applications are available on the managing

12   computer.

1   2.   (Amended) A method as in claim 1 wherein in step (a) the agent

2   additionally performs the following:

3   (a.3) detecting lost network connections.

1   3.   (Amended) A method as in claim 1 wherein in step (a) the agent

2   additionally performs the following:

3   (a.3) monitoring network connection speed between the managed

4   computer and the managing computer to determine a best time to transfer

5   data from the managing computer to the managed computer.

1   4.   (Amended) A method as in claim 1 wherein in step (a) the agent

2   additionally performs the following:

3   (a.3) monitoring integrity of specified applications within the

4   managed computer to ascertain when repair is needed.

1   5.   (Amended) A method as in claim 1 wherein in step (a) the agent

2   additionally performs the following:

3   (a.3) monitoring communications from the managing computer to

4   determine when the managing computer desires the agent to take a

5   requested action.

1   6.   (Amended) A method as in claim 5 wherein in substep (a.3) the

2   requested action is to uninstall an application.

a 3

1   7.   (Amended) A method as in claim 5 wherein in substep (a.3) the

2   requested action is to stop an application.

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1   9.   (Amended) A method as in claim 1 wherein in step (a) the agent

2   additionally performs the following substeps:

3   (a.3) monitoring network connection speed between the managed

4   computer and the managing computer; and,

5   (a.4) stopping all network applications on the managed computer

6   when the network connection speed is below a predetermined threshold.

a 4

1   10.   (Amended) A method as in claim 1 wherein in step (a) the agent

2   additionally performs the following substeps:

3   (a.3) downloading a specified application from the managing

4   computer to the managed computer; and,

5   (a.4) installing the specified application.

1   11.   (Amended) An agent running on a managed computer managed

2   by a managing computer, the agent comprising:

3   an integrity sensor that monitors integrity of specified applications

4   within the managed computer to ascertain when repair is needed;

5   an action sensor that monitors communications from the managing

6   computer to determine when the managing computer desires the agent to

7   take a requested action; and,

8   a main engine that maintains the specified applications, wherein

9   maintaining the specified applications includes making updates to the

10 specified applications when new versions of the specified applications are

11 available on the managing computer.

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1   16. (Amended) An agent as in claim 11 additionally comprising:

2   a network speed sensor that monitors network connection speed

3   between the managed computer and the managing computer, wherein the

4   main engine stops all network applications on the managed computer when

5   the network connection speed is below a predetermined threshold.

1   17. (Amended) Storage media that stores programming code which

2   when run implements an agent running on a managed computer managed

3   by a managing computer, the agent comprising:

4   an integrity sensor that monitors integrity of specified applications

5   within the managed computer to ascertain when repair is needed;

6   an action sensor that monitors communications from the managing

7   computer to determine when the managing computer desires the agent to

8   take a requested action; and,

9   a main engine that maintains the specified applications, wherein

10 maintaining the specified applications includes making updates to the

11 specified applications when new versions of the specified applications are

12 available on the managing computer.

Add new claim 21 as follows:

1   21. (New) A method by which a managing computer manages

2   applications residing on a managed computer, the method comprising the

3   step of:

4   (a) forwarding an agent from the managing computer to the managed

5   computer:

6   the agent performing the following:

7   (a.1) maintaining specified applications residing on the

8   managed computer, including:

9   making updates to the specified applications when new

10 versions of the specified applications are available on the managing

11 computer, and

12   (a.2) performing requests made by the managing computer.